

AMENDMENT

Official

SIR:

Applicant herewith petitions the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for reply to the Office Action dated March 14, 2000 (Paper No. 4) for one (1) month from June 14, 2000 to July 14, 2000. Please charge deposit account number 50-0310 in the amount of \$110.00 to cover the cost of the extension. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to the above numbered deposit account.

In response to the Office Action mailed on March 14, 2000, the period for response having been extended herein to July 14, 2000, by payment of the requisite fee for a Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), kindly amend the Application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 77 and 85 as follows:

77. (Amended) A method ~~to limit bids in an electronic auction~~ [of conducting an online auction between a plurality of bidders], comprising the steps of:
- (a) offering a lot, defined at least in part by an originator, to a plurality of potential bidders, said lot having at least one product;
 - (b) receiving a bid from a bidder for said lot, said bid being confirmed by said bidder prior to submission;